ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES FISHERY UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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SITKA SOUND HERRING FISHERY UPDATE #7

Yesterday, March 27, the Sitka Sound herring sac roe fishery was opened from 3:00 p.m. until 6:05 p.m. in an area southwest of a line from the easternmost tip of Bieli Rock to the westernmost tip of Makhnati Island, north of 57° 02.40' N. latitude and east of 135° 29.97' W. longitude. The preliminary harvest for this opening was approximately 2,100 tons. Vessel and aerial surveys conducted yesterday indicated herring were beginning to move from offshore areas into the island groups to the south of Middle and Kasiana Islands. Large numbers of whales continue to be seen in the offshore areas as well.

No spawning has been recorded as of March 27. Herring were seen in shallow waters on the southeast side of Kasiana Island during the aerial survey.

The plan for tomorrow is to continue vessel and aerial surveys and to conduct test sampling to monitor herring distribution and roe quality. The fishery is on 2-hour notice meaning a fishery may be announced at anytime giving only 2-hour advanced notice to an opening time.

Updates will be posted on the ADF&G web site listed below, and on a recorded message phone at (907) 747-1009.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADFG	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220
Herring Hotline	225-6870	772-3700		747-1009	465-8905			